

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 916, the Senate bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### EUGENE J. MCCARTHY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2836) to designate the building of the United States Postal Service located at 180 East Kellogg Boulevard in Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2836

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The building of the United States Postal Service located at 180 East Kellogg Boulevard in Saint Paul, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill, H.R. 2836, was introduced by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO) on November 6, 1997, and was favorably voted on a voice vote by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight on February 12. The legislation is cosponsored by the entire House delegation of the State of Minnesota, pursuant to committee policy.

As the Clerk read, Mr. Speaker, this legislation designates the building of the United States Postal Service located at 180 East Kellogg Boulevard in St. Paul, Minnesota as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building".

Obviously, as we have seen here today, Mr. Speaker, we are accustomed to honor individuals who are fully worthy but often don't have the kind of national reputation for achievement that the subject matter of H.R. 2836

does. Mr. McCarthy has had a long and storied career in government and politics, one that I am sure the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO) and others will share with us.

I can only say that clearly this gentleman, who is still in his 81st year and residing here in the Washington area, continues to care about this country and to contribute in very special ways. So I would clearly urge the passage of this bill, and extend my appreciation to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO) and the other members of the entire Minnesota delegation for their work on behalf of this very worthy piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker. H.R. 2836 was introduced by Representative VENTO on November 6, 1997 and was favorably voted on by voice vote by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight on February 12. The legislation is cosponsored by the entire House Delegation of the State of Minnesota pursuant to Committee policy.

The legislation designates the building of the United States Postal Service located at 180 East Kellogg Boulevard in Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building."

H.R. 2836 honors Eugene J. McCarthy who served as both a U.S. Representative and Senator from Minnesota for more than two decades. Eugene McCarthy was elected to Congress from Minnesota's 4th District in 1948 and served in the House for 10 years. He was then elected to serve in the U.S. Senate, where he served until 1970.

He declared his candidacy for the Democrat nomination for President of the United States in 1968 while he was still in the Senate. He called for an immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops in Vietnam, the first anti-war candidate.

Mr. McCarthy, now 81, left politics in 1970 and presently resides in Washington, D.C. However, it would be a suitable tribute to have a post office named after him in his home state.

I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 2836.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the gentleman from New York (Chairman MCHUGH) in support of H.R. 2836, legislation introduced by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. BRUCE VENTO) which designates the United States Postal Service Building located at 180 East Kellogg Boulevard in St. Paul, Minnesota, as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building".

Former Senator Eugene J. McCarthy has a unique and distinguished background, both as a leader and public servant. He served as both a U.S. Representative and Senator from the great State of Minnesota for more than two decades and was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States in 1968.

The gentleman from California (Mr. HENRY A. WAXMAN), the ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and I are pleased to honor this great politi-

cal leader, and thank the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO) for sponsoring legislation naming a post office in downtown St. Paul, Minnesota, after Senator McCarthy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO).

(Mr. VENTO asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, of course, I rise in support of the bill that enjoys the support of the Minnesota delegation and I daresay the resounding support of this Congress and of this Nation for the outstanding service that Senator and Representative Gene McCarthy provided to our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, Gene McCarthy started out in a rural county in Minnesota, Meeker County, in the small town of Watkins, Minnesota. From there, with a good education, a public education, he went on to St. John's College a renowned education institution in our State. He eventually taught public school in Minnesota and in North Dakota, and from that background went on to teach at St. John's College, where he had attended, and at St. Thomas in St. Paul, both in economics and sociology and literature.

Of course, from St. Paul he went to the United States Congress and in 1958 to the United States Senate, and to national prominence and electrifying this Nation in terms of the issues of social justice and many other problems that faced our Nation.

Of course, one of the outstanding characteristics of Gene McCarthy was his wit and wisdom. He sort of had little patience for those of us in politics, who took ourselves so serious, there was a great deal of self-deprecating humor that characterized his statements. He said, "Being in politics is like being in a football game. You have to be smart enough to know the game and stupid enough to think it is important."

Mr. Chairman, on a more serious vein, though, I think that Gene McCarthy, in his work in public service and his role as an educator, really there is another story and side to him. That is the story that is told that Senator McCarthy stated that "Politics is the responsibility of everyone. If you don't do politics, someone else will do it for you." That view, I think, is more characteristic and an insight into this renowned American.

Mr. Speaker, I remember as a young student, I believe it was at St. Patrick's grade school, I was raised Irish, they tried as hard as they could with me, it didn't always work, Mr. Speaker, but the fact was I was a pretty good Irish tenor at that point.

I remember reading my Catholic Messenger at St. Paul's. On the front of the Messenger was this profile of a young new congressman from Minnesota that I was reading about. I can't remember if it was in the late forties or early fifties.